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Security Information

23 June 1953

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Notes for [REDACTED] concerning Working Group, Stalin

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1. Initial comment is directed to para 2 of paper concerning this subject, TS 89059. In view of the current events in Europe we need not at this time give undue attention to regaining the initiative. If we take para 2 too seriously we automatically fall into a situation where aggressive action is blocked, and in the present circumstances attack is indicated rather than defense.

2. Specific comments:

Para 1 a (page 1). The hope that one deed will lead to another is not a very aggressive guide to action. Instead of using this line it should be more to the point to concentrate our attention on the German and Czech situations in Europe and on Korean truce negotiations in the Far East; i.e., emphasize only vital things.

Para 1 b (page 2). We can wisely overlook the non-essential points raised in (1), (2) and (4). We may very usefully emphasize our own current actions along the line indicated in para (3). See article in New York Times, June 21, page 1, re the Administration program for "Trade Not Aid."

Para 3 (pages 3,4):

a and b. The present Berlin situation is in point and the implementation seems to be succeeding. Further exploitation of Czech dissatisfaction because of the currency situation, and encouragement for further Polish Air Force defections is appropriate. Anti-Communist propaganda against Soviet control of Poland should be remunerative.

d and e. "Carrot and stick" should be forgotten. Emphasize Soviet vulnerability to determined action, indicating use of tanks, MG's and Russian troops against Berliners.

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